

It makes no sense to have policies that either eliminate internet connections for businesses and consumers in rural areas or makes the service provided in those areas essentially useless because of slow speeds or minimal bandwidth. This area of America comprises too much business potential for all other businesses to be neglected as it has been. Therefore I support and urge the FCC to support reclassifying internet services as Title II services. To do otherwise is condemning America to the back end of progress in a highly competitive international world.

—J C, Phelan, CA

this is a major avenue of free speech. it is highly public and should be treated as such. as an attorney I understand the issues involved and privatization such as the major time warner consolidations should not be permitted to occur. eleanor j. guerrero, esq.

—Eleanor Guerrero, red lodge, MT

Rural Entrepreneurs The Internet takes rural businesses, start-ups, and innovators to global customers. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes routes for rural entrepreneurs to contribute to the progress of our nation. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural businesses stuck in the digital dirt road. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee that all American entrepreneurs have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't leave rural entrepreneurs stuck in the digital dirt road! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. **Rural entrepreneurs, innovators, and business owners working to strengthen our national economy need Title II.** **Rural Artists** The Internet exposes rural art, music, stories, and culture to global audiences. Rural artists, filmmakers, journalists, musicians, and creatives are our ambassadors in this cultural exchange. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes the most accessible venue for rural artists. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural talent locked out of the national and global stage. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American artists have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't lock out rural artists! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. **Rural musicians, filmmakers, journalists, and creatives showcasing the wealth and diversity of American culture need Title II.** **Don't Redline Rural Communities** Broadband service has become a necessity in our society. People need Internet service to apply for jobs, sign-up for healthcare, complete homework, launch a business, and communicate with elected officials. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service in their home. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them would permit the redlining of rural towns and customers who cannot pay for the fast lanes. These Internet providers would claim the low population density of rural areas is not profitable and use it as an excuse to deliberately avoid serving rural communities. To guarantee that every person in our country can get online and access vital services, the FCC must reclassify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people. **Rural Advocates** The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net Neutrality grants equal opportunity to every idea and helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms where rural voices are excluded. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. And allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving rural people without a voice. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't silence rural communities! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. **Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II.**

—Mike Mazzeo, Lake Placid, FL

Living in central West Virginia, the Internet takes rural businesses, start-ups, and innovators to global customers. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes routes for rural entrepreneurs to contribute to the progress of our nation. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural businesses stuck in the digital dirt road. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee that all American entrepreneurs have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't leave rural entrepreneurs stuck in the digital dirt road! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. **Rural entrepreneurs, innovators, and business owners working to strengthen our national economy need Title II.**

—Bill, Grantsville, WV

Please classify internet as Utility. Everyone should have equal rights to the Internet. We are already behind on internet speed compared to the rest of the world. My sister is paying \$10 for fiber optics internet with the speed of 75 Mbps /85Mbps in Europe. The prices we are paying are ridiculously high in USA. Stop harassing internet traffic. Thank you

—Paulius Buta, Old Orchard Beach, ME

This is obviously about controlling who gets information. It is not right.

—KT Bray, Somerset, KY

While I find the FCC to be a completely useless organization, if it must exist it should protect and encourage constitutional rights. The right to free speech is chief among those rights, but should also include and promote the free access to these materials and ideas.

—CJ Bloomer, Somerset, KY

Please consider reclassifying -- don't keep the rural population isolated like this. The internet is power so let's work to empower these otherwise disconnected citizens! Thank you.

—Katrina Dixon, Lexington, KY

Don't Break the Internet Before Rural Gets It. Tell the FCC to reclassify

—Stan Mann, Merrillville, IN

The Internet takes rural businesses, start-ups, and innovators to global customers. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes routes for rural entrepreneurs to contribute to the progress of our nation. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural businesses stuck in the digital dirt road. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee that all American entrepreneurs have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. I have been a member of our Golden Sierra Workforce Board for over 13 years, and currently serve as Chairperson. It serves Placer, El Dorado and Alpine Counties in the Sierra Mountains and foothills of northern California. Consequently, I am acutely aware of the need for Internet access to help grow our rural economy. Don't leave rural entrepreneurs stuck in the digital dirt road! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Rural entrepreneurs, innovators, and business owners working to strengthen our national economy need Title II. Thank you.

—Susan Miller, Auburn, CA

Broadband service has become a necessity in our society. People need Internet service to apply for jobs, sign-up for healthcare, complete homework, launch a business, and communicate with elected officials. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service in their home. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them would permit the redlining of rural towns and customers who cannot pay for the fast lanes. These Internet providers would claim the low population density of rural areas is not profitable and use it as an excuse to deliberately avoid serving rural communities. To guarantee that every person in our country can get online and access vital services, the FCC must reclassify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people.

—Kim Phinney, Westford, VT

Internet access is absolutely vital in today's world. It is a necessary tool that anyone can and should be able to use, and people without the means to pay extra fees in addition to already paying for the service should not be punished. It is appalling enough that internet speeds in the United States are one of the slowest in the developed world, but to extort more money from users who are already paying for a sub-par service should be criminal.

—Paige Higginson, Lexington, KY

Please reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service!

—Jesse Lucas, Louisville, KY

. Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Dan Parker, Connersville, IN

I am writing to express deep concern that the Federal Communications Commission will set new rules on Internet traffic that would allow broadband providers to charge companies that can afford it a premium for access to their fastest lanes, and leave the rest of us languishing along the dirt roads of telecommunications. I live and work in the rural Kentucky coalfields, one of the poorest Congressional districts in the nation. My organization produces and distributes documentary films celebrating the rich culture of this region and we also focus on the issues that concern mountain people. We run a community-programmed FM radio station that offers news, information and cultural enrichment via broadcast and Internet streaming. Our region is suffering a severe economic crisis as coalmining jobs have dropped significantly. Throughout the area, government, business and community leaders are looking for ways to diversify our economy. Access to affordable high-speed Internet has the potential to significantly increase opportunities to rebuild our economy. The Internet can reduce the impact of geographic isolation and provide us with the chance to compete and collaborate on a level playing field with businesses and communities around the country, indeed the world. Although the Internet is slow and expensive in our rural area, it has allowed us to find new audiences and customers for our work. We are excited about all the potential that the Internet offers for our work and our communities if the principles of Net Neutrality remain in place – an Internet that is open and where all information gets treated equally, no information gets preferential treatment and no player is blocked. But, if the principle of Network Neutrality is dismantled, our hopes will be severely diminished and the digital divide between urban and rural, rich and poor will only grow. If Net Neutrality is weakened, businesses will accrue the expense of paying for a faster lane to reach customers. Over time, companies will no doubt pass that expense on to their customers, resulting in higher prices. The higher prices will generate more profits for major telecommunications corporations, which already charge us plenty to use the Internet. And companies paying for a faster lane to reach more customers will want to bypass rural communities, where fewer customers live and many are low income. The way to solve this problem, and to close the digital divide, is to reclassify Internet service as a Title II service. The FCC should treat the Internet as a common carrier service like telephone, which it increasingly is becoming. The change will allow the FCC to regulate Internet providers so they don't behave badly in the first place, instead of waiting for them to misbehave and then taking corrective action. Reclassification allows the commission to enforce Net Neutrality and prohibit the creation of faster lanes. Reclassifying Internet under Title II would also mean that every person in our country would have the right to an Internet connection no matter where they live. According to the latest FCC Broadband Progress Report, fixed broadband networks do not reach 19 million Americans. Of those unserved by fixed broadband networks, 14.5 million live in rural areas and nearly a third in tribal lands. These statistics reveal a persistent digital divide that keeps rural communities from better education and health care, economic development and full participation in our culture and democracy. Technologies change but our basic human right to communicate remains. We are counting on the FCC to keep the Internet open and to apply the same principles that have guided our telephone service -- universal service, affordability, competition, interconnection, and public protection and safety -- to Internet services.

—Mimi Pickering, Whitesburg, KY

Access to information and communication infrastructure ought to be available to all in this country. Throttling the transfer of data creates an atmosphere that is hostile towards small businesses that create jobs and innovate new technologies. Please reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service.

—Richard Merwarth, Louisville, KY

The Federal Communications Commission needs to reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service. The sooner we all accept the fact that Internet service is a utility, the better off we'll be. Allowing service providers to create fast lanes at a higher cost will choke out anyone who requires access in a rural environment.

—Jordan Orwig, Sullivan, IN

As a former consortium leader of the Indiana Telehealth Network, one of the 50 remaining FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Programs, I am baffled as to why the FCC would consider allowing Internet service providers to create 'fast lanes' for those who can afford the extra fees. According to the United States (US) Census Bureau's 2010 Census, approximately 19.3% of the US population lives in rural areas. This same Census classified over 95% of the land mass of the US to be rural. The population in rural areas of the US tend to be poorer and sicker than their urban counterparts. The proposed fast lanes for Internet service would consequently result in higher fees for rural areas of the US and be like ripping up the state roads in every state in the nation. Access to high-speed broadband is essential to the creation of vibrant downtown business districts and school systems in rural areas. Broadband access is also crucial for local health care providers to deliver services to their communities. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the healthcare services that they need. Those who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. Just today, on July 11, 2014, the FCC adopted a Report and Order establishing a \$100 million budget for the Connect America rural broadband experiments. Why invest millions of dollars constructing networks to provide high-speed broadband services, and then provide Internet Service Providers with the latitude to create fast lanes that would essentially increase broadband rates to the point that the services are unaffordable to those who need them the most? All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's new Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Becky Sanders, Terre Haute, IN

To Whom It May Concern: As a Revenue Cycle Operations Manager at a Critical Access Hospital in a rural area, it was troubling to hear of the proposed rules to redline rural communities' Internet access. Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Pamela Williams, North Vernon, IN

Net neutrality is the cortex of our free society. Of a free market that trades in innovation, not the power to stifle new ideas with money. Net neutrality show the world why we are a powerful country, and unafraid to traffic in free, unrestricted speech. Please protect the American people from the singular interests of the wealthy few. You are at a unique fulcrum of history to do so. To remind our country and the world why our freedom makes powerful, not weak. Thank you, Michael Williams

—Michael Williams, Indianapolis, IN

Rural communities need support to provide all our citizens an equal chance to learn, grow, do business, and communicate. Internet access should be equal for all citizens. Don't discriminate against rural areas.

—Denise Primm, Nashville, TN

Take all the reasons everyone else has posted, and imagine I wrote them here. At least all the reasonable ones, I'm not a tin-foil-hat wearer.

—Megan Edwards, Lafayette, IN

I live in and grew up in rural areas of Kentucky and want to make sure that I have access to fast and affordable internet where I don't have to pay to get the access I want/need. This network was set up largely thanks to federal funds so therefore should be accessible to all citizens. I do not want to see it handed over to few gatekeepers who decide who gets to use it how and when and for what price. In many ways the infrastructure it uses is analogous to land-line telephones and seen as an essential system in our economy. Lack of ability to access this system is tantamount to economic discrimination. I support Net Neutrality and want you to as well.

—Mark Daniel Morgan, Berea, KY

In many ways it is MORE important for rural businesses/residences to have internet! My family and I rely on the internet for a large% of our shopping needs (because options are far and few.), 95% of bill paying, communication with family and friends near and far. Because we live in a rural area, my children often use Skype to "play" with their friends. Better yet my 12 year old has made friends all over the world (as has my husband!) We are considering getting rid of costly satellite service and streaming video soon. That option would be taken from us as well. I use the internet to check my bank accounts and my children's' current grade standings at school. I could go on and on. I have been frustrated that we have little choice for internet providers, so obviously our home feels the FCC should reclassify internet service as a Title II telecommunications service. Please feel free to contact me with questions as my degree is in Telecommunications with some Telephony curriculum.

—Deanna Burkart, Greensburg, IN

Please do not allow the collusion of the internet carriers to kill the ability of small providers and companies to thrive.

—Mica Cataletto, Palatine, IL

How can you divide and choose who gets a proper service and who doesn't? I'm from Appalachia Kentucky, there are school kids there who need the same service as other more fortunate children. Please stop trying to socialize our people. Equality or nothing.

—Terrance K Brown, Jacksonville, FL

Everyone needs the same opportunity to access to the internet, regardless of income and education. Do not perpetuate and further the division of class in America.

—Sylvia Woods, Oak Ridge, TN

People with disabilities, often using specially created software and hardware, need to have access to the internet on a regular, high speed basis and yet, people with disabilities often face financial barriers because of the lack of employment options available. Many people with disabilities live rurally; throttling internet speeds or ignoring rural service needs will leave people with disabilities and, in fact, all rural communities at a significant disadvantage. Large internet service providers are very likely to ignore rural communities using the excuse that density of population makes expansion in rural areas cost prohibitive. The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net Neutrality grants equal opportunity to every idea and helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms where rural voices are excluded. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. And allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving rural people without a voice. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't silence rural communities and leave people with disabilities living in isolation! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II.

—P Stephen Hoad, Windsor, ME

I like to browse a lot of off-beat sites, and without net neutrality, it may make those sites harder to find.

—Ashley Liz, Pulaski, NY

FCC, please don't break the Internet before rural parts of the US gets up to speed with the rest of the country. As it is, 14.5 million people who live in rural areas have absolutely no Internet access. I work with disadvantaged rural communities who are just starting to expand their understanding of the power of the internet, and it is crucial to their future development, and the equality of all US citizens to be starting on equal ground. The currently proposed weak rules would allow Internet providers to redline rural businesses, towns and customers altogether. To stop this discrimination in its tracks, the FCC needs to reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service. Thank you.

—Christi Electris, Brookline, MA

Net Neutrality is essential to keep alive the possibility that folks in rural communities can get a chance to bridge the digital divide. Rural Americans already don't have as much access to the internet, as their urban and suburban neighbors. Let's not put more distance between us. Give us all a chance to get connected, please fight for net neutrality, please reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service.

—Nikiko Masumoto, Del Rey, CA

I live ten miles from the nearest town and I can't get internet service. DSL, Cable and Fiber are all available in town. I am willing to pay but have no options except satellite which has proven totally inadequate for our needs. It's time for congress to step in. If left to providers rural areas still wouldn't have phone, electricity, or running water. As you remake the rules please don't forget us. Allowing providers to make huge profits is fine, that's capitalism but leaving a large portion of the American population stuck in the last century is unacceptable. Give providers what they need to profit but only if a portion of those profits go into making high speed internet available to us all. America is more than cities and towns a lot of us live in the country too. Thank You.

—Michael Vargo, Enterprise, AL

To Whom It May Concern: As a representative of a rural Indiana hospital, it was troubling to hear of the proposed rules to redline rural communities' Internet access. Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Greg Turner, Richmond, IN

The internet needs to be available for EVERYONE!

—Emily Keller, Louisville, KY

To Whom It May Concern: Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. All of these issues are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

Thank you, Sam Ruf

—Sam Ruf, Greensburg, IN

Dear FCC, We request that the FCC redefine the Internet as a public utility subject to Title II Communication Act. It is a telecommunications service. Further, no speed tiers should be allowed. everyone should have access to the fastest speed a provider can provide. No paid prioritization should be allowed other than for 911 services. We also oppose the Comcast-Time Warner cable merger and any further telecom industry consolidation. Lack of competition hurts the public. Respectfully, Roger Strawbridge

—Roger Strawbridge, Sebastopol, CA

Having finally obtained high-speed Internet access in 2011 has changed our lives. It is now possible to take on-line college courses for the adults and the elementary schools also have on-line schooling to reinforce what is taught in class. Being a low-income household, it is difficult to afford these amenities, so the only amenity we pay for is the high-speed internet - television is via antenna (w/digital box), and telephone (land line and cell) is basic service. Please ensure that affordable Internet service is available for all. Thank you. Margaret E. Morton Umatilla, FL

—Margaret E. Morton, Umatilla, FL

The Internet exposes rural art, music, stories, and culture to global audiences. Rural artists, filmmakers, journalists, musicians, and creatives are our ambassadors in this cultural exchange. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes the most accessible venue for rural artists. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural talent locked out of the national and global stage. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American artists have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't lock out rural artists! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Rural musicians, filmmakers, journalists, and creatives showcasing the wealth and diversity of American culture need Title II.

—Maria Sykes, Green River, UT

Rural and Native American communities comprise the majority of people who are unable to access telecommunications services. According to the latest FCC Broadband Progress Report, fixed broadband networks do not reach 19 million Americans. Of those 19 million, 14.5 million live in rural areas and nearly a third on tribal lands. This digital divide that keeps rural communities from gaining access to information and educational opportunities and it prevents our voices from being heard. The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net neutrality helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms. Rural businesses can reach the entire world via the world wide web. Net neutrality encourages new businesses to enter the market. Competition and free enterprise need a level playing field that does not give the advantage to large urban suppliers over the rural producers: net neutrality keeps things fair and open to competition. Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service. The FCC should treat the Internet as a common carrier service like telephone. This will allow the FCC to regulate Internet providers, enforce net neutrality and flat-out prohibit the creation of faster lanes. Internet provider, like telephone providers, would not be able to cherry-pick areas to serve, which consistently leaves rural areas with bad or no service. Title II reclassification would give the FCC the legal authority to ensure that Internet providers put people, not just profits, into their equations. Treat the internet like what it is—a common carrier for all the people, not just city folk with money.

—Kathleen Fischer, Birmingham, AL

Dear FCC: The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net Neutrality grants equal opportunity to every idea and helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms where rural voices are excluded. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. And allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving rural people without a voice. In addition, many of our nation's active duty military members and veterans come from and return to rural parts of our country. As we all know, thousands of those who have served our country are now in desperate need of services of all kinds and learning about and accessing those services nearly always involves the need to access a computer for information, enrollment, assistance, etc. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. Please do not silence rural communities! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II. And please do not allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people.

—Cm, Washington, DC

14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving the majority of rural people without a voice. To guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. Don't silence rural communities! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II.

—Karla Weng, Faribault, MN

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—Karen Goeschko, Lake Mills, WI

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—Calvin Jones, Viburnum, MO

Broadband service has become a necessity in our society. People need Internet service to apply for jobs, sign-up for healthcare, complete homework, launch a business, and communicate with elected officials. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service in their home. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them would permit the redlining of rural towns and customers who cannot pay for the fast lanes. These Internet providers would claim the low population density of rural areas is not profitable and use it as an excuse to deliberately avoid serving rural communities. To guarantee that every person in our country can get online and access vital services, the FCC must reclassify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people.

—Walter Cuchine, Eureka, NV

I'm a rural American. I am also a disabled American. Having access to high speed internet in my own home allows me to work on days I can't even leave my bed, build community from my bathtub, and speak up about things without leaving my house. I could dig up the links on how isolation increases depression and suicidality in people with disabilities. I could talk to you about my frustration limits. I could tell you that even high speed rural internet is not that fast- but you already know as tyou guys dictate what counts as high speed. I could tell you that there are still large swaths where there is no reliable internet, how the cable company requires 10 households on a street of 15 houses, 4 of which are hunting cabins, to sign on in order to put in even their poorest quality "high speed" lines At my mothers house, and how if it rains too much the internet there goes out. I could tell you about my business plan to, using my internet access, dig myself out of poverty and off of benefits and into the professional world without needing to find money for an office I'm often too sick to get to. Instead I'll leave you with some information some friends of mine came up with. Rural Business The Internet takes rural businesses, start-ups, and innovators to global customers. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes routes for rural entrepreneurs to contribute to the progress of our nation. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural businesses stuck in the digital dirt road. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee that all American entrepreneurs have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't leave rural entrepreneurs stuck in the digital dirt road! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Rural entrepreneurs, innovators, and business owners working to strengthen our national economy need Title II. Rural Artists The Internet exposes rural art, music, stories, and culture to global audiences. Rural artists, filmmakers, journalists, musicians, and creatives are our ambassadors in this cultural exchange. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes the most accessible venue for rural artists. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural talent locked out of the national and global stage. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American artists have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't lock out rural artists! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Rural musicians, filmmakers, journalists, and creatives showcasing the wealth and diversity of American culture need Title II. Don't Redline Rural Communities Broadband service has become a necessity in our society. People need Internet service to apply for jobs, sign-up for healthcare, complete homework, launch a business, and communicate with elected officials. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service in their home. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them would permit the redlining of rural towns and customers who cannot pay for the fast lanes. These Internet providers would claim the low population density of rural areas is not profitable and use it as an excuse to deliberately avoid serving rural communities. To guarantee that every person in our country can get online and access vital services, the FCC must reclassify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people. Rural Advocates The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net Neutrality grants equal opportunity to every idea and helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms where rural voices are excluded. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. And allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving rural people without a voice. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't silence rural communities! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II.

—Savannah Logsdon-Breakstone, Franklin, PA

I have been operating as a rural enterprise for the past 25 years and it is only within the past 5-10 years that we have had internet access comparable to urban areas. We still have drops and low level quality in many areas of rural Nevada. It's critical to our sustained livelihood that the internet be reclassified as a Title II telecommunications service to insure equitable access and economic opportunities for any rural organization or enterprise. Thanks for your consideration.

—Dr. Deborah Loesch-Griffin, Virginia City, NV

To Whom It May Concern: As a consortium member for the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, in Indiana, a program dedicated to bringing high-speed broadband to rural health care providers, it was troubling to hear of the proposed rules to redline rural communities' Internet access. Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. As a Critical Access Hospital, I rely on the high speed internet for my Telecardiology and soon to have Telepsych services. Many rural/remote healthcare sites will be affected by this change of access. All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Emmett C. Schuster, Princeton, IN

Do not limit the internet.

—Julie Howe, London, KY

In order for almost any single individual to function in today's society, internet access is crucial... it is a resource much like water or electricity. That should go without saying. There is an obvious discriminatory negligence taking place when governments are allowing businesses and whole towns to be stripped of internet access entirely.

—Joseph Salyer, Whitesburg, KY

Do not make it so that we have to PAY anyone else for a section of the internet we believe as citizens of the united states and I speak personally for a family of 25 that we do not want you to regulate the internet in a way that requires us to pay or our provider to pay for sections of the internet such as movies videos and news it started zone free it should remain zone free and you should not have the power to do anything to us but you do so we have to speak up and we are letting you know that we dont want this we want you to leave it Neutral also you do need to find a way to provide more people with fast high speed internet in rural areas there is many ways and it needs to be done yesterday but do not ad fees to our bills to get it done you must find private inverstors or federal funds period. thank you

—Jeffrey Hampton, Whitesburg, KY

please.....dont stop econinic developmentin the rurals. net netrality should be for all americans not just the wealthy. Frank Whitman Austin Nevada Pres. Austin C of C

—Franklin Whitman, Austin, NV

Please reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service. The Internet allows rural communities to connect with the rest of the world. For rural schools especially, the Internet provides children with the opportunity to access educational resources that their schools cannot afford. As an employee of an edtech company, creating fast lanes would wreck havoc on our business, as many of the schools we work with can barely afford basic supplies, much less fast internet. Slower Internet would be a waste of teacher time, which essentially boils down to a waste of taxpayer dollars. We need the internet to be a Title II telecommunications service in order to help our educational system grow stronger thereby boosting our economy.

—Elizabeth Lockman, Boulder, CO

As a Critical Access Hospital Administrator in Indiana, it was troubling to hear of the proposed rules to redline rural communities' Internet access. Broadband access for rural Americans is a necessity. Outside of the critical role high-speed Internet plays in rural businesses and rural schools, access to broadband services actually saves lives. In rural areas, access to affordable, timely healthcare is not always a given. Many rural residents must travel excessive distances to receive the care they need. Those people who are lucky enough to have a small rural or Critical Access Hospital in their town rely on services within those facilities that can only be produced as a result of a high-speed fiber connection at the site. Furthermore, major advances in telemedicine are making the future look much more promising for providing adequate care to all Americans at a greatly reduced cost to the patient, healthcare provider, and the government. All of these issues, and indeed the mission of the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund, are dependent on classifying Internet services as Title II Telecommunications Services. Please do not cripple and penalize our healthcare providers based solely on their rural locations. They are providing cost-saving and life-saving services where it is most needed and hardest to find.

—Thomas Crawford, Frankfort, IN

Net Neutrality is vitally important to the internet because it keeps everything on a level playing field. Right now we have several companies that are trying to complete mergers that would be setting them up as monopolies in their areas for internet and phone service. I know what happens when a monopoly is place for the phone/internet provider because the county that I live in has ZERO competition. They own all the infrastructure for the phone/internet service and they have no incentives to innovate or improve their services. The only reason they have improved anything within the last 10 years is because of grant money received from the government that they had no choice but to spend within a certain timeframe. If Net Neutrality is in place, then that gives other companies an opportunity to get into these markets that they would not normally be able to enter because of monopolistic practices. By allowing competition, the companies will offer better services and incentives for customers so they will stay with them. Net Neutrality also will prevent companies from segregating the internet making the rural towns work at much slower speeds while the metro areas get faster services.

—Brandon S. Fields, Hyden, KY

The Internet exposes rural art, music, stories, and culture to global audiences. Rural artists, filmmakers, journalists, musicians, and creatives are our ambassadors in this cultural exchange. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. Lack of access to this vital tool closes the most accessible venue for rural artists. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural talent locked out of the national and global stage. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American artists have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't lock out rural artists! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Rural musicians, filmmakers, journalists, and creatives showcasing the wealth and diversity of American culture need Title II.

—Linda Young, Hawthorne, NV

Net neutrality is critical to our promise of liberty and justice for all.

—Marcia Smith, Corbin, KY

There's no way around it-- the Internet is too important to give some Americans better service than others. I am from a rural community that has at least 40 % of people without internet access. If Internet communication is not properly regulated, it is in the hands of the internet providers-- not the consumers-- to decide what happens to the internet availability. I don't think that that type of regulation helps promote a free and open society. For that reason, I suggest that the FCC reclassify the Internet as a Type II telecommunication. That will allow for more regulation and fairness in the world of internet providers. I hope you take this into consideration.

—Austin Cope, Cortez, CO

Dear FCC: I am writing from a rural and ranching community in northeastern Nevada that suffers from very poor access to broadband service and have witnessed firsthand how this has a major impact on our residents ability to have the same opportunities as other U.S. citizens. Access to broadband service is key to attracting and maintaining diverse, creative and entrepreneurial rural communities, especially our younger generations so needed in agricultural related occupations. We have lost much talent in this region as a result of lack of services such as broadband internet. In my daily work at a regional non-profit serving traditional artists in the rural West, I am also keenly aware of how important internet access is to the health of this constituency. The Internet allows rural arts, stories, culture and commerce to be brought to global audiences and allows for heightened communication, new skills and networking to take place between rural and urban communities. 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service critical to keeping competitive with the rest of the population. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them leaves rural talent locked out of the national and global stage. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all Americans have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't lock out rural businesses, artists and entrepreneurs. Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Thank you for your serious consideration of this important issue. Sincerely,

Meg Glaser

—Margaret Glaser, Elko, NV

To apply rules of a fast lane is an uncalled for practice. In areas like eastern Kentucky we are over paying for basic broadband service. To allow these telecoms to impose fees to deliver content to users who are overpaying them will kill the Internet as we know it. Please do not do this.

—Zack, Hazard, KY

Many people in my community do not have access to internet, much less afford it when it is available. These rules will push the students and families of rural Kentucky even further into the internet stone age. Please reclassify.

—Joshua S Trosper, Barbourville, KY

Please stop the enclosure of the commons. We were doing fine managing on our own.

—Kevin Smith, Cochranville, PA

Internet access for rural families is crucial if they and their children are to be productive citizens in the global economy. Without high speed internet, rural families are put at a disadvantage in everything from promoting their businesses to attending college through online courses. Discrimination against rural families is illegal and the Federal Communications Commission is charged to uphold the law. Thank you.

—Kathy Curtis, Martin, KY

We need to protect rural families from corporate interests! Thank you.

—Hilary Neff, Whitesburg, KY

The internet should be available to all, with equal service regardless of ability to pay

—Mary Metz, Harleysville, PA

All US Citizens, especially the 14.5 million people who live in rural areas with no current internet access deserve equal access to internet service. Please reclassify Internet service as a Title II telecommunications service!

—Laura Howard, Berea, KY

I believe it would be the best interest of the citizens of this country for all of us, even those in rural areas far from population centers, to have very affordable access to acceptably fast internet connections. By affordable, I would say preferably even free connections, and by fast, I would say faster than 100 megabits per second, and preferably more than 1 gigabit per second.

—Leslie Bright, Kingsport, TN

Please maintain net neutrality. Giving those with money an advantage just helps perpetuate and aggravate income inequality. Thank you.

—Sandra Rosenblith, Chevy Chase, MD

We live in a rural area in the country. Our internet access is limited to dial up or one of the newer discount satellite services. The problem with that is if the weather is bad our service is terrible. We pay \$40+ a month for limited access. if we watch a couple of videos or our kids play very many games our internet slows down and you can't use it at all. It makes it very difficult for the kids to do homework or research online. We do not have fast access or cable in our area so our choices are limited.

—Phyllis Albright, Moorefield, KY

Please, please, please do not end net neutrality. The internet is humanity's greatest resource for learning, opinions and news. If you allow it to be doled out simply based on the notion of class and money, you are violating fundamental liberties on an ethical level. The internet is arguably the greatest invention in human history, only behind the development of agriculture. Anyone can access it, and it's importance to our ideological evolution cannot be understated. It's equality is paramount. Discrimination is supposed to be diminishing, and yet individual rights are taking a back seat to corporate money. The end to net neutrality not only ruins the beautifully level playing field that allows ALL ideas to be accessed, it creates a disgustingly prejudiced monopoly designed to make comcast, verizon, and time warner decide which ideas get accessed. This is terrible. Humanity is innovative because ideas spread and flourish. Net neutrality protects scholarly development and independent startups and any and all ideas from being discriminated against. Thank you for your time and bearing with this somewhat repetitive post. Please do what's right and don't allow ideas to be regulated. They are what makes us great. They are what makes us human.

—Daniel, Frederick, MD

The Internet is a platform where rural people can speak for themselves and on behalf of their communities to wider audiences. Net Neutrality grants equal opportunity to every idea and helps ensure that rural communities do not experience the same lack of representation they have in other media platforms where rural voices are excluded. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service. And allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them is like selling megaphones to the rich and leaving rural people without a voice. To prohibit fast lanes and guarantee all American voices have full access to the Internet, the FCC must classify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't silence rural communities! Reclassify Internet service as a Title II service and establish the strongest Network Neutrality rules possible. Net neutrality makes the Internet a vital platform for rural people to create and share our own images. Rural people working to present a genuine portrayal of America need Title II.

—Whitney Coe, athens, TN

Don't Redline Rural Communities Broadband service has become a necessity in our society. People need Internet service to apply for jobs, sign-up for healthcare, complete homework, launch a business, and communicate with elected officials. Yet, 14.5 million rural Americans do not have access to broadband service in their home. Allowing Internet providers to sell fast Internet lanes to those who can afford them would permit the redlining of rural towns and customers who cannot pay for the fast lanes. These Internet providers would claim the low population density of rural areas is not profitable and use it as an excuse to deliberately avoid serving rural communities. To guarantee that every person in our country can get online and access vital services, the FCC must reclassify Internet service as a Title II Telecommunications Service. FCC, don't allow Internet providers to redline rural communities! Reclassify Internet as a Title II service and implement strong consumer protections that prohibit Internet providers from neglecting rural people.

—Deborah Arrighi, Yerington, NV

Without net neutrality, the decks are further stacked along class lines. Every bit of info will be picked over by vultures with faster net, preying on the weakest.

—Sara Wilkins, Athens, TN

Unless we want to buy all our food staples from foreign countries, we must support our farmers and ranchers ability to conduct their businesses in rural areas. Not a single farmer or rancher can be successful in supplying the basics that our country needs without full internet access. Net Neutrality is no different than supplying electricity or phone service to ALL Americans. It is essential.

—Jan Morrison, Battle Mountain, NV

Dear FCC, I believe that a free and equal internet is only possible under Net Neutrality. I oppose changes to net neutrality because I believe that to allow ISP's to create "fast lanes" will only hurt the internet, the internet's availability, and the economy at large.

—Lee Cooper Doyle, Monroe, LA

Net neutrality should be something the government defends, not something it allows companies to pay to circumvent.

—Brian Burke, Oceanside, CA

Private companies that have been granted monopoly status in most municipalities should not be able to encroach on the free speech each user is entitled to. All websites should be equally accessible at the same speed. What if a new technology is discovered that makes the cable network obsolete? Do you think cable companies would allow free access to those websites that sell that product if the government didn't set up fair rules to allow competition. Past behavior of the cable companies indicate that they would not willingly provide the same access.

—James Buto, Erie, PA

Net neutrality is important to me because its loss would make the internet much more inefficient, and with internet being easily the most important achievement in the history of humanity, and inefficient, unequal internet would be a huge setback in humanity's greatest achievement. A unneutral internet would also make censorship easier, and, of course, it would be the underdeveloped countries that already have slower connections the ones who would probably leave with the shorter end of the stick.

—Juan Mangles, Valencia,

Work. Plain and simple. I use certain programs for work and without net neutrality, these sites would slow to a crawl. To keep up they would have to pay fees which in turn would lead to a rise in price to be able to use and that would affect everybody's bottom line. How much more do you think the economy can take?

—Jorge Cruz, PHARR, TX

I don't want the major cable companies shaking down people's websites and holding my web surfing hostage. These greedy people don't care about anything but their bottom line FCC, do your job, protect the people.

—Robert Warwick, North Richland Hills, TX

Dear Commission Members & Chairman of the FCC, My name is Matthew Jones. I am merely a man, that like so many others, use the internet every day. I use it to work. I use it to play. I use it to send emails such as this very one right here, and I use it to watch Netflix and Youtube streaming videos. I am one of the millions of Americans who has seen the slow and steady decline of video speeds from my provider, AT&T. My other download speeds from all other sites have been tested, and retested, and the one thing I can tell you, is that when it comes to Streaming video, it is my opinion that AT&T and the other ISPs in this country have been maliciously, and with malice of forethought, been torquing down video speeds, in order to double dip their hands into the cookie jar, as it were. They seek to not only get money for services paid by customers, which should provide the only source of income for their stated business, but to also extort funds from content providers, seen increasingly as a free lunch to them. Time, and time again over the last few years, we have seen speeds drop across the nation for video services. "Switch to another company!" says the rhetoric. What about me? I have no choice where I live, there is only one provider that reaches my address, and I am locked into a single choice. The only real and total solution is the passing of law or regulation that not only keeps net neutrality intact in "The Last Mile" but at every stage of data delivery across the board; Legislation or regulation that treats the delivery, and speed of delivery of all information equally and the same, regardless of point of origin, and regardless of the greed that wishes to put a stone in the river, only to have you pay to remove it. You know as well as I that capitalism is one of the greatest forces on earth... but you also know that companies, in their own self-preserving, and more to the point, self-profiting interest, fear regulation more than anything else.

—Mr. Matthew Jones, Austin, TX

Net neutrality is important to me because I believe that a large conglomerate of corporations who's bottom line is directly affected by net neutrality should not be allowed to determine which websites are delivered at a faster speed.

—Paul gonzales, Garden city, MI

I build websites. If mid sized and small companies can't afford the "special" fast connection. They might not even bother with a website and look for other media to advertise (AT&T?). Which takes a lot of work away from website developers and business'. It will hurt our already hurting economy.

—Erin Dolan, San Diego, CA

Ending net neutrality will hamper the growth of the internet. Many websites that people use on a daily basis would have had a much more difficult time starting if the proposed legislation existed years ago. The internet should remain a place where people can have a free and equal voice, it should not be another place where those with money can dictate what is being said and heard.

—Christopher Chinn, Minneapolis, MN

Information shouldn't cost a premium to access. I can't afford to pay high speed premium. I doubt that libraries and the other places that rely heavily upon it would get any sort of benefit from this either.

—Adam, harper woods, MI

Throw out your rules and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Christopher lee West, flagstaff, AZ

The only people that would benefit from ending net neutrality are massive corporations. This is hardly "rule by the people, for the people."

—Wyeth Bedanr, Boston, MA

Ending net neutrality so blatantly benefits large cable companies while hurting individuals. It is ridiculous that so many people should have to demand that the FCC protect consumer's rights, when that is what the FCC should have been doing in the first place.

—Terra, Ojai, CA

What would happen if other businesses started "preferred lanes"? Oh, you want your hamburger now? Now costs an extra dollar, but you can wait 30 minutes if you don't want to pay up. Creating preferred traffic lanes is exactly as silly as charging customers to not have to wait for services that are already available. The net neutrality issue has been framed as a free speech issue. Verizon says it's their freedom of speech at risk. I say it's the individuals who will have to rely on large corporations not restricting their right to free speech for profit that need to be worried.

—Scot Snelling, blacklick, OH

I live in Portland, Oregon in the 97210 zip code. There are exactly three broadband internet service providers providing service to my house. Only one provides download speeds in excess of 6 Mbps, and that is the cable company Comcast. I have no choice as a consumer to which high speed broadband service I purchase. Until most Americans have access to a free market for high speed broadband, careful regulation by the FCC of the types of peering arrangements allowed is necessary to ensure consumer choice.

—Jonathan Pearce, Portland, OR

I believe that Internet Service Providers should be classified as common carriers. If ISP's are allowed to moderate internet speeds I believe all personally owned and small business websites would become all but inaccessible. Also ISP's would be able to all but shut down any website that promotes ideas and policies with which the ISP's disagree, giving them a monopoly on the world's largest and traditionally freest forum.

—Aidan Mackenzie Durbin, Montgomery, WV

Net neutrality is important for a variety of reasons. But the biggest reason is that internet access has become a necessity for a developed nation, not a luxury. America is already way behind other developed nations in internet access. Instead, ISPs need to be classified as common carriers, just like phone companies. Businesses, career searching, banking, all of this is online now. And the end of net neutrality would mean anyone not able to pay extra fees for "fast access" would be all but shut down. This is in addition to the end of such recreational activities as online gaming.

—Michael Craig, hubbard, OH

I believe net neutrality should exist because if it doesn't then it wouldn't be as creative or fun as it is now. Without net neutrality, the ISP providers will control how the commoners use the internet while the rich folks can do whatever they want, it will be more of a luxury for the rich instead of something anyone can use. Please keep net neutrality alive, I don't want the internet to be like the novel "1984". Here is a video that should explain some things about net neutrality and why it is useful, please watch it: <http://youtu.be/HCUg5A-ZAw0> Thank you.

—Alia, Waveland, MS

Net neutrality is important mainly because it's the last wall between the massively under-regulated legal monopolies known as the cable companies and the nightmare known as allowing a self-regulating monopoly. Enforce net neutrality and make those amoral money grubbers actually invest in internet infrastructure.

—Tate Bowers, Montclair, NJ

Net neutrality is vital to the continued fair operation of the unique communication medium of the Internet.

—Scott McCaskill, Tampa, FL

What would be the point of all this? Who benefits from 2 tiered internet? The providers. They would be just taking the class divide to a whole new arena. I'm sick of this. FCC, I trust you. I've doubted you before but you know that we can't let those who decide the rules of the world be just those who have the most money. That crushes the freedom of the world. Please don't let this happen. Take into consideration all of these comments. Look at how many of us are fighting to save net neutrality. Don't let our fight be in vain.

—Dennis, St. Thomas,

I don't believe you're reading this I don't believe you believe in democracy I don't believe you have the power to change

—Panda, Toronto,

I urge the FCC to protect Net Neutrality by reclassifying broadband service as telecommunications, and internet service providers as common carriers. This is essential in order to maintain the freedoms allowed by the internet. There are no plausible reasons that ISPs would support the tearing down of Net Neutrality other than the vast power and influence that it would give these corporations, and the very favorable effect that it would have on their profits. Both of these inevitable outcomes are obviously harmful to their customers and all consumers of the Internet. For these reasons I categorically oppose any and all motions to abolish or weaken Net Neutrality.

—Ryan Lee, South Lake Tahoe, CA

Dissolving Net Neutrality seems like it could lead to a decline in the innovation of new websites and companies to compete with existing entities. Imagine attempting to start up a new business and finding that, in addition to the fees and headache of what already is in place to get started, you have to add in even more costs just to have your product be seen by others. How much of your time would you give to a company if their site can't load?

—William Tramp, Olathe, KS

Dear FCC Net neutrality is important to me because I am an aspiring computer programmer that one day hopes to create a start up. If net neutrality is destroyed then anything I do will start at a disadvantage because I won't have the money to compete with existing companies speed. I've always thought of the physical world as the house of representatives where those who have more people and money have more influence based on that. However the internet is like the senate where everyone gets the same representation regardless. That's why in our government system California has the same number of senators as Rhode Island. If it is important to have those two systems in the American legislative branch then it should also be important to keep net neutrality alive I trust you'll make the right choice. Kyle Williams

—Kyle Williams, Denver, CO

To Whom It May Concern: As a member of a small community, our choice of ISP is usually limited to one of two or frequently just one (as is the case at my home). This limitation opens the door to price gouging, the same service that I receive at my home costs a third less in the larger city just across the state line. My neighborhood is home to a hospital, assisted living facility and several low-income families as well as two different schools. These are people who need reliable and affordable access to web resources. As a college-student, I find that I have to have internet service in order to complete assignments and stay connected to classmates as well as finding research and employment. Small businesses in my town are subject to the same types of rock-and-hard-place decisions when it comes to internet and phone services. Ultimately, net neutrality supports families, students, social services, and small businesses: all the things that our government should be looking to safeguard. This is what net neutrality means to small communities. Thank you.

—Stephanie Erdman, Niles, MI

Not being able to use whatever sites are desired and instead being forced to use whatever sites companies want to be used would be terrible for everyone outside of those companies.

—James Fredrick, Townsend, MA

All those who are trying to destroy the equality of the Internet for profit can try to hide what they are doing inside of boring negotiations. They can hide it with clever wording. They can even hide it behind a wall of solid bullshit. But despite their efforts, it is not going unnoticed. The knowledge of what companies like Verizon and TWC are trying to do to net neutrality has been exposed, and it will stay exposed because of the fact that the Internet is a faceless arena where anyone can be knocked down. If they don't understand that, then they are in for a rude awakening. Are we going to let these billionaires get richer while our Game of Thrones gets slower? Is this yet another way the average Joe gets sucker punched in the wallet? There has to be a point where a line is drawn, and that line is our precious, precious kitten GIF's. So do we watch this happen? HELL NO! This is where we hold them! This is where we fight! This is where THEY! DIE! Remember this day, men. For it will be yours for all time. -Leonidas

—Colin Hamilton, Brooklyn, NY

Please have a backbone and support Net Neutrality.

—Shawn Bodi, Candia, NH

With all due respect you do realize that by abandoning net neutrality you'll allow Verizon & others to slow down the pages of any site thereby stifling any kind of debate or reform they don't like? On a point that may strike closer to home I doubt that politicians will receive much support come election time if they pass an Anti-Net Neutrality bill and to avoid that the F.C.C. are sure to lose a hell of a lot of funding.

—Daragh Twiss, Killorglin,

Net Neutrality is important to me because I value freedom of speech, freedom of expression, the freedom to use the internet to pursue education, business, and any other goal I seek. I value the ability to access any and all websites equally, without the "censor" of the Cable/Internet companies forcing people/companies to pay to have better access through their networks. These companies are out to make more and more profit out of something that is as integral and necessary to modern life as the internet. The airwaves, of which the internet signals are a part, are owned by THE PEOPLE, for use by the PEOPLE. Do not forget this.

—Roberto Torres-Torres, Houston, TX

The internet is the last place where the US is capable of meaningful innovation. We curtail freedom on the web at our own economic peril. As a programmer working on a web app that will *not* fare well in a world where trolls demand tolls to cross bridges online, I hope you make the right decision for all of us and not just for the trolls.

—John Archer, Dallad, TX

Net neutrality is important to me because it protects the American public's right to access information regardless of socioeconomic class.

—Gwen Way, Cedar Park, TX

The internet was born free and must stay free.

—Claire, Seattle, WA

The companies are barely doing their jobs now. As a media professional I need my internet to work and not just fail because these companies have decided that the websites I use don't pay them enough money.

—Jeshaiah Roskens, Groom, TX

Dear FCC, We live in a world that grows ever more connected and vibrant. In the past, world events went unnoticed-- now, thanks to social media, we know what's happening everywhere in the world. We can use the internet for good. We can use it to create amazing works of art that will inspire millions. We can use it to help disaster victims in parts of the world we've never been to, never seen. We can use it to make friends in exciting places and reach new levels of learning and understanding. Net neutrality has shown us a whole, new world. We, as a species, are entering a new Renaissance of information, culture, sharing and growth. Don't take a step backwards. Don't cast us into the dark. The light of knowledge is for everyone. Be the guardian of that light-- future generations will thank you for it.

—Bob, York,

This really shouldn't even be an issue. Any logical, sane person can see that net neutrality is better than allowing megacorporations control of which sites are realistically usable and which aren't. The internet has done more for progress, due to the free and voluntary exchange of information, than any other tool or system in the history of the world. And now that system is being held hostage by the greed and selfishness of our nations policy makers and those that hold power through the almighty dollar. For once, do something because its the right thing to do.

—Robert Schulze, The Woodlands, TX

Net neutrality keeps the internet a level playing field. Without it we will lose the voices of anyone not able to pay. Imagine if your cell phone got better service when you called target but spotty reception when you call your mother.

—Adam Traum, fort myers, FL

The cable companies make many claims about why they should be able to create " fast lanes" on The Internet. All the arguments aside, the cable companies do not own the Internet. the Internet was here before Verizon, so before they go about deciding to tax the peasants on land, shouldn't they be required to conquer that land first? In this analogy the land is Internet, the peasants are the public, the the cable companies are the seedy little cousins to the prince. 12th in line to the throne, but give them a little time and they will have poisoned, knifed, and strangled their way onto that throne. So I call for trial by combat. The C E O s of the cable companies should have to duel it out, hand to hand battle royal were the winner gets to bend over the Congressional imps they been commanding and have their way with their already soiled honor and integrity. I fart in your direction for even considering this B.S. FCC. Honestly you should be ashamed.

—james Tyler jones, norfolk, VA

http://www.salon.com/2014/06/23/tune_yards_without_an_open_i_nternet_i_couldnt_have_become_a_musician/

—Christianne Thompson, Toronto,

Please keep net neutrality! Discrimination against websites and users is good for no one except the internet providers themselves!

—Ashley, montpelier, VA

Net neutrality is important to me because I use a lot of programs that are not coded professionally, and I believe that revocation of Net Neutrality would destroy access to many of these useful things, as well as add another layer of costs to anyone wishing to provide any sort of useful information.

—Ryan Grimm, Syracuse, NY

Net neutrality matters to me because it supports the principles of free and unregulated speech.

—Ryan Graczowski, Raleigh, NC

It is the government's job to regulate industry to keep it from infringing on the rights of the American people, including those that make up smaller corporations. If net neutrality fails it will infringe on the public's right to information and on the rights of small internet-based companies who might be unable to afford a fast connection to their website, despite providing a superior service. Non-profit organizations would be at a severe disadvantage. Allowing selectively difficult access to certain news sites would bias what the user reads. Do not allow monopolies to impede the flow of information.

—Robert Duff, Collinsville, IL

Net Neutrality is extremely important to small businesses. The office I work in is paperless and almost all of our correspondence and contacts with clients rely heavily on fast, reliable internet connections. Without Net Neutrality, our office could be extremely hampered in our operations and our ability to work quickly and efficiently would be in jeopardy.

—Teresa Soto, CORAL SPRINGS, FL

The Internet was at one time an idea of wonder. The possibilities seemed endless, the future was open and allowed for fantastic new ideas. New businesses came from the internet age, broad social change. It was a world-wide forum for everyone, everywhere to come together. Until, of course, the ISPs started imposing, without regulation, rules and subversive code. The internet is not as wonderful as it once was. The potential is not as vast as it used to be. One day, like Gibson's Idoru, there will exist a "Walled City", where people will go for a form of freedom, to a simpler time of internet, it will be the new freespace. Until then, however, why speed up that process by allowing ANYONE to have that much control over people in a shared space? Charging businesses in order to provide what they already provide? It's thuggery. It's, pay me and I'll let you work. What's the point of a business paying taxes and their bills, if they also have to pay a shake down fee? If businesses are charged a personal tax, then they should be protected from this strong-armed bullshit..

—Patrick Jordan, Ponchatoula, LA

As a disabled veteran and small-business owner, I rely on efficient web traffic to help keep a roof over my head and food in my belly.

—Sholom Keller, Cincinnati, OH

I can only reach my best friends online. I do most of my research and work online. I learn new things by just browsing around. Why do cable companies need the right to take all that away?

—Lauren Pifer, Benton, AR

Cable companies have a natural monopoly. This gives them a great deal of power, and it's you guys who are supposed to be a balancing force to that power. Net Neutrality is one of the only weapons in your arsenal. Cable companies have been cheating Americans for years. They lobbied congress to allow them to charge exorbitant fees for their services, because they were going to make an information super highway accessible to all Americans. Here we are, decades later, and much of the country still can't get high speed internet. In France, the average cost of high speed internet is 30 times less than in the US, and their speeds are up to 30 times faster. FRANCE for God's sake. Don't give the cable companies another way to cheat us. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers. High speed internet is a utility, and many many people rely heavily upon it.

—Benjamin Kimberlin, Las Vegas, NV

Enough with the garbage that cable companies are feeding us. The internet is great as is and has always been and should always remain a public resource free of regulation. Cable companies getting rid of net neutrality in no way benefits the consumer and is only going to benefit the company and more specifically the individuals running said company. If net neutrality is lost then clearly you have lost your morals and given in to greed and therefore should not be in a position to make these decisions. I hope you do what is right for the consumer and the public.

—Darren Govan, Barrie,

The internet is one of the most powerful tools ever created by man, it allows people to share opinions and ideas across the globe. And all of that is because of Net Neutrality everyone is equal, everyone has a chance, just like the American Dream. If you end Net Neutrality you hand over the key of the country over to the Internet providers, and suddenly Time Warner is deciding the next president

—Philip, Highland, IN

Net Neutrality is one of the most important things in the world. Any online site should not need to pay extra to run at normal speed. And other site should not get to pay extra to be faster just because they have way more money. Without Net Neutrality, website starts up will slowly die as they have no way afford the web speed needed to compete. Please keep Net Neutrality and don't let cable companies control one of that last equal market places in the world.

—Tim Wilson, Newport, RI

The internet as it stands is not broken and therefore does not need to be fixed. The proposed rules would make ISPs too powerful and would punish its users that rely on them since most users do not have more than a few options. The lack of competition is why ISPs can charge so much for service that's rather unreliable. Giving them the power to take away Net Neutrality would be too much. They'll be able to pick in choose which sites can run at a reasonable speed and force websites to pay a fee to use their so called fast lanes. Internet access should be treated like a public service if we are going to get the full benefit out of it.

—Noel Valle, Louisville, KY

Net neutrality gives all citizens and organizations equal footing on the internet. What ISPs like Verizon and Comcast are trying to accomplish will lead to extortion and censorship of smaller organizations and private individuals who cannot monetarily compete with multi-million dollar corporations. Everyone's freedom of speech should be protected, each voice should have an equal say. The death of net neutrality will be another example of corporate interests taking precedence over the rights of the American populace.

—Christopher Fabela, Mission Viejo, CA

The internet is perhaps the single most democratic thing in the history of mankind. Without net neutrality it will become a plutocracy.

—Daniel O'Donnell, Raleigh, NC

Because I already get poor enough service from my ISP, I don't need another ISP throttling the website I am dealing with and slowing the process down even more.

—Travis Spikes, El Paso, AR

To Those in the FCC: Net Neutrality is the most important mass communications need of the early 21st century. The United States of America has always attempted to live up to its original ideals of equality for all. By disbanding net neutrality, the FCC would be setting up a new, institutionalized Internet aristocracy; something that was the exact opposite of the letter and spirit of the US Constitution itself. The Founding Fathers were incredibly wary of producing entrenched aristocracies; so much that they banned noble titles (Article I, Section 9, Clause 8, US Constitution). Comcast, Time-Warner, Verizon, and the like should never be nobility. I respectfully urge the FCC to ensure that net neutrality is respected and enforced via effective mechanisms, and that the rules and regulations ensure that no single company, or oligarchy of companies, are allowed to choke the Internet. The Internet is the ultimate expression of free speech. Don't fuck it up.

—Greg Hodgins, Atlanta, GA

With Net Neutrality, everyone has equal access to the same information. Now that the collective knowledge of human existence can be found on the Internet, this is more important than ever. Ending Net Neutrality could potentially be the most egregious act of my lifetime, and I pray that it doesn't come to pass.

—Casady Fletcher, Shawnee, OK

Net neutrality is important to me because, uber-wealthy corporations have an uneven influence in everything. I feel like the internet gives me a chance to be (relatively) free from corporate interest if I want, the suppression of free speech would surely ensue and everyone will be angry and sad. Please preserve net neutrality, don't just hand it off to the highest bidder.

—Kris Buttafoco, San Francisco, CA

Hello Tom, Net Neutrality is the very fabric of why the internet is the leading cause of innovation. If you decide to let cable companies run a mafia style business, where the businesses who can pay enough for the fast lanes only get the privilege of using them, is outright treasonous against the public and will not end smoothly. I believe Net Neutrality is one of the key aspects to ensuring progress for human civilization as well as assisting countries around the world. When you take away bandwidth capabilities, you can essentially slow down progress, R & D, and multiple other benefits that come out of being able to rely on a stable, reliable speed for the average user. Please PLEASE rethink your decision...remember the legacy you will leave behind..where do you want to be in history? Regards, Citizen.

—Lemuel Bezares, Sacramento, CA

Allowing megacorporations to control the very pulse of what is, in the modern day, the heart of communication, information and entertainment, is, in a word, asinine. The anti-net-neutrality lobby is all about lining pockets further, to the detriment of any who don't play ball and pony up. To allow Comcast, AT&T, et. al. to control the flow of the internet, in order to - as Verizon formerly said in an ad campaign - "protect their freedom of speech," what happens to the freedoms and abilities of those who are under their thumbs? Whatever the hell they want. NO to fast-lanes, NO to the death of net neutrality!

—Kyle Cox, Lexington, KY

I support many small game studios and if net neutrality was to be done away with, then these small studios would not be able to buy enough bandwidth to remain viable from the ISPs. This would kill innovation in an entire industry.

—Christopher Pitchell, Houston, TX

We need to regulate the Internet like public utilities. No matter what Comcast, Verizon, AT&T et. al. promises, once there is a two tiered Internet, their lawyers will take over with to explanation that they are just following the rules. Great example, Comcast interaction with Netflix. Need we say anything more.

—Walter S. Jakielski, Marseilles, IL

Please do not ruin the internet.

—Aris Ganea, Elmhurst, IL

Dear FCC Do not let the cable companies have control of the internet. If real net neutrality is not provided, it will be definitive proof for me that the United States is no longer a nation for the people, but one that has a government more concerned with the interest of massive corporations. Are we a democracy or an oligarchy?

—Michael Lacefield, Selmer, TN

Plain and simple: the internet should belong to the people. It's a basic necessity for life in the 21st century, and allowing cable companies and big corporations to steamroll you on this and screw over the average American would just be another step down the path of a non-representative government, where the federal agencies that exist to protect the citizen are at best laughably incompetent and at worst puppets of faceless corporations.

—Leo Rubiano, Everett, MA

Net neutrality is important to me because it will help to ensure free and equal access to information. By allowing businesses to broker information as a commodity, this country opens the door for not only abuses in the business world, but in the world of human rights as well.

—Joe Russo, Gilbert, AZ

The only people who are against Net Neutrality are the cable companies who stand to make insane amounts of money by overcharging people for what has become a necessary public utility. We wouldn't let some private company dictate our use of water or electricity without some dire circumstance, yet these companies want the right to be able to do it for the simplest of all reasons, greed.

—Richard, Greensboro, NC

Please keep net neutrality. I can't afford what the cable companies would do to my small business if they make me pay for reasonable speed access.

—Zachary Gartrell, Sandston, VA

Net neutrality is important to me as a free American. Don't let corporations take over one of the last places for free speech! Also as a teacher, widespread access to fast internet is extremely important to my classroom.

—Hillary Stacey, Vail, AZ

Letting the companies decide which sites and bandwidth is allocated flies in the face of the First Amendment. The rights of us are important, even if we're not overloaded with money

—Kyle Novich, Oak Harbor, WA

The Internet is an amazing leap forward for humanity in the ways it brings the entire world together and gives anyone with access a voice. The end of Net Neutrality removes the equal footing of the internet and places prioritization in the hands of those who are only interested in how the system can benefit themselves rather than the world at large. This would be a misstep that posterity would look at as a negative tipping point.

—Matt Beard, Vidor, TX

net neutrality is fundamental to first amendment rights, charging for greater access diminish speech to the wealthy, there is quite enough advantages for the rich as it is. please re classify the pipelines as a public utility; creating competition that will benefit the consumer. internet is no longer a luxury but a necessity

—Ronnie Cameron, philadelphia, PA

For as much as people go on about America being a self-starting nation of small businesses, you could have fooled me. Net Neutrality is essential for the continued prosperity of our nation. Penalizing those who cannot afford to pay extra fees is disgusting. I'd say that I was shocked that large companies don't have their customers' best interests at heart, but frankly, this is just one more nail in the coffin. Stop being greedy. Do not limit commerce and information amongst the people. Keep the Internet open!

—Samantha Davis, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Dear FCC, If TWC was a person, I would have a hate crime conviction. My water company thankfully does not slow down my water flow to a trickle and give my neighbors a torrent (unless I don't pay) why should cable companies do the same because they don't like my website?

—Joshua Young, Glens Falls, NY

I work two jobs. One is my full-time, sickly low-paid job with no coverage of any sort to support myself. The other is my attempt to create my etsy shop, use crafts and other artwork that sells well on the side. I take commissions, work in larger projects and do something that I love that I must have in addition to my primary job in order to continue paying for rent, gas, bills and food. Vaporizing net neutrality will cripple my funds, bump me out of "poverty" and straight onto the streets. My primary job, even though I work 6 days a week, cannot support me. The job hunt right now is brutal and despite my constant attempts better options simply aren't there at the moment. I have my college degree, I excel in my internships and I work as hard as I can, living with a roommate to split the bills. Even with all of these efforts and more we are struggling. Choking lines to my second job, slowing or severing my ties with my consumer base in favor of larger websites and their enormous wealth will end me. No questions asked. All so cable companies can squeeze millions or billions of dollars in profit. It's absolutely disgusting, not to mention the literal millions of others in my situation. You will be squashing our ability to live to give corporate fat cats more cash that they simply don't need. There is no trickle-down to us, they hoard it at the top and leave the rest of us to starve. And quite frankly, we are pissed. You aren't creating internet fast lanes. You are choking traffic and creating a toll road for the elite.

—Katie Hardash, Lake Forest, CA

Stable, reliable internet access is an intrinsic part of my life and so many others. The rampant exploitation of what is quite possibly one of the greatest works of humankind for profit is one of the most shameful acts by any body in our nation. It's reminiscent of the internet censorship laws of more (apparently) backwards nations, without even the courtesy of some moral reasoning to explain why.

—Joe Phillips, San Francisco, CA

Keep net neutrality intact! Don't further extend the cable companies monopoly.

—Matthew Heyn, Fort Wayne, IN

The very idea of having to pay a premium does not sound like freedom at all.

—Michelle Hart, Troy, MI

Net neutrality is important to me, as I do the bulk of my class work and research online. If ISPs gain more control to limit my speed and access to information, they will literally be making it more difficult to further my education and better myself.

—Ian Morris, South Ogden, UT

Ignoring Net Neutrality of ISPs will give far too much power to an already overpowered and underserved industry. These are businesses that package unnecessary channels, services, and equipment costs onto their consumers (often without consent) through loopholes within the law and as such abuse their customer base. Net neutrality does not only protect consumers from continued abuses by ISPs but the ever-growing and expanding business marketplace of the internet and allow small business the opportunity to flourish in an economy dominated by large corporate entities. However, the real danger is not in business or streaming services. It lies with information. The majority of U.S. citizens gain their information over the internet, and by removing restrictions over ISPs you will give them the key to the future of the country to mold as they see fit. You will give them the ability to limit access to information they see as conflicting to their self-interest or the interests of the highest bidder. Imagine the political and social landscape when only one side of an election is heard because the other candidates couldn't or wouldn't pay the extortion fees for their websites to be free of issue. By removing Net Neutrality you will stamp out the average citizen's right to free speech in favor of sitting on your perch in a gilded cage.

—Andrew Ryan Gonzales, Oklahoma City, OK

If critics can not speak If money reigns supreme The strong control the weak And the poor can only dream.

—Isaac Lee, Memphis, TN

Keep those disgusting company's filthy fingers off of my neutral internet!

—Elizabeth, Akron, OH

Net Neutrality is the only thing truly protecting both the average citizen's freedom of speech and their equality. If you allow the major cable companies to destroy it, the only people who will benefit are the major cable companies. Everyone else, all the average, non-CEO citizens (AKA pretty much everyone) will be up a creek without a paddle. It is not right for the provider to determine what content is valuable and what isn't and to take it a step further and handicap all "non-valuable" (didn't pay through the nose for it) content. If you allow Net Neutrality to fall, all you are promoting is that the average citizen's, the American People's freedoms and opinions aren't worth as much as a big corporation's. As a government by the People and FOR the People, you cannot allow this to happen. You must insist on the reclassification of ISPs as common carriers. Anything else would be destroying the People's freedoms.

—Jennifer Scruggs, Amarillo, TX

I was already forced to pay more for a business connection simply b/c I needed to run an FTP server. My network would get shut down within 10 minutes of starting my server. My ISP would never admit they were doing it but as soon as I paid over twice as much, all my problems went away. I have had similar experiences with video streaming in the past as well. If these are the experiences I have now, what will they be like if there is less regulation on the ISPs? The neutrality of the internet has been one of the biggest driving forces of internet and user expansion. Think if these companies could have all but crippled services and sites they didn't want their users on from the beginning? I doubt that the internet would have turned out anything like it has today. The internet has been the largest and fastest technological revolution in my lifetime (if not of all time) and we need to keep it that way. Allow the services and sites that users choose be the ones that shape the internet, don't let the corporations shape the internet. If you do, we may lose the power and passion behind this wonderful thing.

—Alan Tipton, Three Rivers, MI